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REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending, including independent claims 1, 6, 11 and 16-19. The Examiner has objected to claims 1, 6, 17 and 18 and has suggested alternative language for clarity. Applicant appreciates the suggestion and has amended the claims to address the Examiner's objections. In addition, Applicant has reviewed all of the claims carefully and has made additional amendments to clarify the claimed invention and increase the readability of the claims.

Before addressing the Examiner's rejection of the claims on the basis of prior art, a discussion of Applicant's invention is provided. Applicant's invention is generally directed to more effective ways of presenting POI information on the display of a vehicle navigation system. Independent claims 1 and 17 describe a method and a system, respectively, for displaying POIs in one category by using a common icon, and displaying the particular type of POI when a specific POI icon is selected. Thus, the use of common icons facilitates recognition of the locations of POIs in a particular category, yet the particular type of POI within a category can be found easily, when desired, in an orderly fashion.

Independent claims 6 and 18 describe a method and a system, respectively, for displaying by a common icon only those POIs in a category having a preset type, and displaying the type of POI when a specific POI icon is selected. This embodiment provides the advantages of the first embodiment and, in addition, reduces unnecessary clutter on the display by not displaying POI icons for types of POI that the user knows beforehand he or she does not want.

Independent claims 11 and 19 describe a method and a system, respectively, for displaying an index of POIs selected by a cursor as well as a location corresponding to the cursor instructing point, and selecting a particular POI or a location corresponding to the cursor instruction point from the index. This embodiment is useful when the scale of the displayed map is small or the density of POIs is large, so that a list of POIs within an area designated by the cursor and a location corresponding to the cursor instructing

point itself (e.g., at the cross intersection of a cursor) are displayed, and the desired POI or the location corresponding to the cursor instructing point can be reliably selected by a user.

Independent claim 16 describes a method for displaying only one POI icon when a plurality of POIs having the same icon are included within the area designated by the cursor. This embodiment makes it easier for the user to recognize the situation within the cursor, e.g., to correctly select a point or a road within the cursor without interference from a plurality of displayed POI icons.

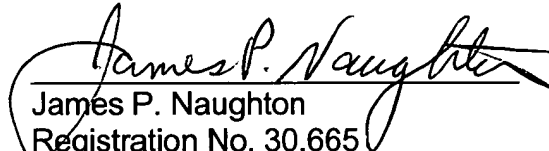
The Examiner rejected all claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,401,034 ("Kaplan"). However, Applicant believes the Examiner's reliance on, and characterization of, Kaplan is incorrect.

Kaplan describes a system and method that allows a user to specify a type of point of interest at which the user wishes to make an intermediate stop while on route to a final destination (see Abstract; col. 1, line 66 to col. 2, line 9). Kaplan does not provide icons for different POI categories as does Applicant's invention. To the contrary, Kaplan simply displays a generic mark (i.e., an "X") at the location of all POIs (see Figs. 3, 16). Independent claims 1, 6, 17 and 18 have been amended to more clearly recite this feature of Applicant's invention.

Regarding the remaining independent claims, which address issues concerning the use of a selection cursor, Kaplan does not even describe such a cursor. The Figures and text passages cited by the Examiner in Kaplan describe the selection of an entry on a menu, or the use of an arrow or a circle (Fig. 16) to indicate a best POI or a selected POI, but none of these is a cursor that is movable relative to the displayed map by a user for selecting an area on the map or a feature such as a POI. Nevertheless, independent claims 11, 16 and 19 have been amended to clarify the use of the cursor in Applicant's invention.

In summary, Applicant submits that the claims as presently amended are patentable over the cited art. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration, and allowance, of this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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APPENDIX A
Marked-Up Versions of Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, and 14-19.

1. (Amended) A [Point of Interest (POI) icon display] method of displaying a POI icon at the location point of a POI on a map displayed by a navigation system, comprising [the steps of]:

defining a plurality of POI categories;

storing a location point and a type of POI for every POI in [a] each category;

displaying the POIs in [the] each category on the map by a common [the same] POI icon, where the POI icons for different POI categories are visually distinct; and

displaying the type of POI when [the POI icon of] a POI icon is selected.

2. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein [said] one POI category is restaurants and said type of POI is type of food classified by country.

6. (Amended) A [Point of Interest (POI) icon display] method of displaying a POI icon at the location point of a POI on a map displayed by a navigation system, comprising [the steps of]:

defining a plurality of POI categories;

storing a location point and a type of POI for every POI in [a] each category;

presetting the type of POI in [the POI, which is displayed on the map by the POI icon] a selected POI category;

displaying the POIs of said preset type of POI on the map by [the same] a common POI icon, where the POI icons for different POI categories are visually distinct; and

displaying the type of POI when a [in a POI, when the] POI icon [of a POI] is selected.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 6, wherein [said] one POI category is restaurants and said type of POI is type of food classified by country.

11. (Amended) A [Point of Interest (POI) icon display] method of displaying a POI icon at the location point of a POI on a map displayed by a navigation system, comprising [the steps of]:

moving a cursor relative to the displayed map, the cursor indicating a predetermined area and a cursor instructing point;

displaying an index including [for selecting] a POI name of at least one POI icon selected by [a] the cursor and a location corresponding to the cursor instructing point; and

selecting [the POI icon or cursor instructing point by selecting] a [predetermined] POI name or the location corresponding to the cursor instructing point from the index.

14. (Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the location corresponding to the cursor instructing point is selected and, thereafter, said [point] location is set as a destination, thereby searching a route to said [point] location.

15. (Amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein [the] a POI [icon] name is selected and, thereafter, a destination is set, thereby searching a route to the facility corresponding to said POI [icon].

16. (Amended) A [Point of Interest (POI) icon display] method of displaying a POI icon at the location point of a POI on a map displayed by a navigation system, comprising:

displaying a POI icon of each POI at a location point on the map;

[scrolling the map by an operation for] moving a cursor relative to the map,
the cursor indicating a predetermined area; and

displaying only one POI icon and deleting the other POI icons, when a plurality of the same POI icons are included within said predetermined area indicated by the cursor.

17. (Amended) A navigation system for displaying a Point of Interest (POI) icon at the location point of a POI on a map, comprising:

means for storing a location point and a type of POI for every POI in [a category] each of a plurality of POI categories;

means for displaying the POIs in [the] each category on the map by [the same] a common POI icon, where the POI icons for different POI categories are visually distinct;

means for selecting a POI icon; and

means for displaying the type of POI [in a POI, when the] when a POI icon [of a POI] is selected.

18. (Amended) A navigation system for displaying a Point of Interest (POI) icon at a displayed location point of a POI on a map, comprising:

means for storing a location point and a type of POI for every POI in [a category] each of a plurality of POI categories;

means for presetting the type of POI [which is displayed on the map by the POI icon] in a selected POI category;

means for displaying the POIs of said preset type of POI on the map by [the same] a common POI icon, where the POI icons for different POI categories are visually distinct;

means for selecting a POI icon; and

means for displaying the type of POI [for a POI, when the] when a POI icon [of said POI] is selected.

19. (Amended) A navigation system for displaying a Point of Interest (POI) icon at a displayed location point of a POI on a map, comprising:

means for [selecting a POI icon by] moving a cursor relative to the displayed map, the cursor indicating a predetermined area and a cursor instructing point;

means for displaying an index [for selecting] including a POI name of at least one POI icon selected by the cursor and a location corresponding to the cursor instructing point; and

means for selecting a [predetermined] POI name or the location corresponding to the cursor instructing point from the index[, thereby selecting the POI icon or cursor instructing point].